(c) whether certain employees of these banks were also found to be involved in such cases; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what is the action taken/proposed to be taken against those employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Demands for Gujarat before finance commission

2626. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demands made by the Gujarat Government before the Finance Commission including the list of projects of national interest and importance;

(b) the total number of projects which need special funds as on date, including Sardar Sarovar Project;

(c) whether the Tenth Finance Commission has considered the demands of Gujarat Government for vital projects; and

(d) if so, the details of project-wise allocation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) The Finance Commission, constituted under Article 280(1) of the Constitution, is an independent body and not a limb of the Central Government. Further, under Article 280(4) of the Constitution, the Commission determines ist own procedure of work. It is, therefore, not within the purview of the executive powers of the Government of India to go into the working of the Commission.

Setting up of investment bank

2627. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India is planning to set up an investment Bank in the near future;

(b) whether the Bank is planning to set up a custodial services unit within the ambit of the Bank; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) State Bank of India (SBI) are holding a licence for opening a security services branch in Bombay. This branch when opened will also provide custodial services.

Seizure of heroin in Delhi

2628. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether about 8 Kgs. of heroin worth around Rs. 8 crore was seized in two separate hauls in New Delhi on February 6, 1994;

(b) if so, the details and circumstances of the seizures; and

(c) whether any network of smugglers was unearthed as a result of the investigations and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) On 4.2.94, the officers of Delhi Police seized 7.880 Kgs of heroin/smack in two separate cases.